

birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay".

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 630 on, H.R. 6510, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, To direct the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Houston, Texas, to the Military Museum of Texas, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF
JUAN L. RIVADENEIRA AND
JORGE E. VILLACIS

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor two brave young men from my District who died recently while serving their country in Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Juan L. Rivadeneira of Davie, Florida died November 13th when an insurgent suicide bomber detonated a vest bomb and struck his unit in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was 27 years old.

Rivadeneira was an Infantryman assigned to Company B., 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division based out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Staff Sergeant Rivadeneira served in two wars, first in Iraq and then in Afghanistan. And from the moment he enlisted in 2003, he was hard working, a quick learner, and most importantly, a dependable soldier that you wanted at your side.

Not surprisingly, during his seven years in the Army, Juan Rivadeneira was highly decorated for his bravery and commitment to his mission, receiving sixteen medals and badges. His company commander in Iraq, Army Major Robert Rossi said of him, "if someone needed help, he was the one to pick them up."

Corporal Jorge E. Villacis, of Sunrise, Florida died just this past Sunday, December 12th when his unit was attacked by an insurgent with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device while serving in Howz E Madad, Afghanistan. He was only 24 years old.

Villacis was an Infantryman, who joined the Army in September 2008. Born in New Jersey, Villacis graduated from American Senior High School in Hialeah.

Also based out of Fort Campbell Kentucky, Villacis' awards and decorations include: Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Global War Terrorism Service Medal; Army Service Ribbon, and Combat Infantry Badge.

Both of these young men called South Florida home. Both of these young men answered their country's call to service.

And both of these young men left proud, but grieving family members behind.

Juan and Jorge met at Fort Campbell Kentucky and they were deployed to Afghanistan together in June.

Maybe it was the fact that Juan's family had roots in Venezuela, and Jorge's family was from Ecuador.

Maybe it was that both of them hailed from South Florida. Or maybe it was that they just hit it off.

But regardless of the reason, Juan and Jorge soon became close friends. In fact, last year, Juan and Jorge and their families joined together to celebrate Thanksgiving at Fort Campbell.

I didn't have the pleasure to know Staff Sgt. Rivadeneira, nor Corporal Villacis. Nor did our families know each other.

Yet, my family, and our nation owes a deep debt of gratitude for the service and ultimately the untimely loss of these two brave young men.

Neither of these men was forced to serve their country in the military.

Indeed, none of America's soldiers serving our country here or abroad, combat or non-combat, was forced to enlist in the military.

Yet they did. Juan and Jorge both answered our nation's call to serve and like thousands upon thousands of men and women before them, they fought for America's freedom, our liberty, and to ensure that our country remains the free and prosperous nation that it is today.

During this holiday season, and as we reflect upon the past year, we need to recognize the service and sacrifice of those who are serving and have served our country, like Juan and Jorge, who died fighting to protect our American way of life.

While I didn't know Staff Sgt. Juan L. Rivadeneira and Corporal Jorge E. Villacis, personally, mere words cannot express the gratitude I feel for them and their families.

CARROLLTON HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Carrollton Trojans who have been a dominant force in high school football in my home state of Georgia.

Carrollton ended the season with a 14-1 record and ranked number two in the state in Class AAA. Coached by Rayvan Teague, Carrollton's offense racked up an eye-opening 632 points this season—averaging 42 points a game—while their defense recorded six shut-outs.

I am proud of the Carrollton Trojan's accomplishments and contributions to my home state of Georgia and the 11th District of Georgia.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Carrollton Trojans.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
DEDICATION OF JAMES L.
STUBBLEFIELD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James L. Stubblefield for his contributions to the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee. As any member of Congress knows, our legislative achievements and successful constituent services programs would not be possible without a cadre of great staff working behind the

scenes. Throughout my time in Congress, I have been fortunate to have many bright, able staff members with an interest in serving their country by working in this body. Today, I'd like to single out someone who has accomplished an amazing feat that deserves recognition, applause, and perhaps, a test of his sanity; incredibly, Jimmy Stubblefield has been a part of my staff for all of my 26 years in Congress.

Jimmy graduated a few years after I did from Middle Tennessee State University and jumped right in to my first campaign for Congress. He has served as my field representative ever since that first election, criss-crossing the district with me and logging countless late nights. Jimmy has helped thousands of Middle Tennesseans resolve issues with federal agencies, straighten out immigration and passport issues and receive needed benefits. He has touched the lives of many families and helped keep my Murfreesboro office running smoothly.

Jimmy has always been known as the man who can get things done. He has worked with community leaders around the district to cut through red tape and make planned improvements a reality. He has helped spearhead the expansion of the Stones River National Battlefield, now one of the top historical destinations in the region. He saw to fruition the development of the Greenway system, which has given Rutherford County residents space to exercise and preserved our community's green spaces in the midst of incredible population growth. Jimmy knows each of these projects like the back of his hand, down to the fences and sign posts. He has ensured our alma mater MTSU has the resources and assistance it needs to accommodate the largest undergraduate student body in the state. Rutherford County has seen incredible development since Jimmy and I began working together, and Jimmy's fingerprints are all over it.

Jimmy serves as president of MTSU's Alumni Association, and he and I have cheered the Blue Raiders through many ups and downs over the years. It's a good thing he's a sports fan because his athletic daughters have kept him busy running to games and cross country meets all around the area. Jimmy met his wife Nancy through my campaign, and it has been wonderful watching Katherine and Margaret grow up.

Jimmy is one of three men who have stood by me from the very beginning, through victories and disasters—through hell and, literally, high water in the aftermath of tornadoes and severe flooding. Along with Kent Syler and Billy G. Smith, Jimmy has been there every step of the way.

Madam Speaker, I could not have accomplished half of what I did without Jimmy's dedication and friendship. Jimmy, thank you for all your help and loyalty over these many years. I wish you, Nancy, Katherine and Margaret all the best.

HONORING MRS. KATHY HINCKLEY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 17, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Mrs. Kathy Hinckley to the U.S. House of Representatives